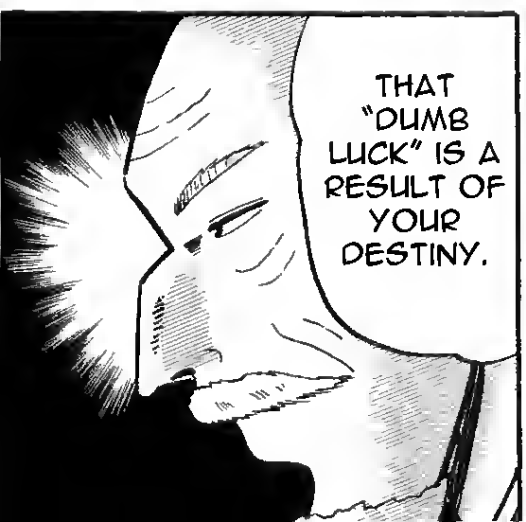
Atsuize Tenma!
第5話 CHAPTER 5
天馬vs.薩摩
TENMA VS. SATSUMA
TRANSLATED AND
TYPESET BY SONICKRAZY
CLEANED BY BIGGUMS

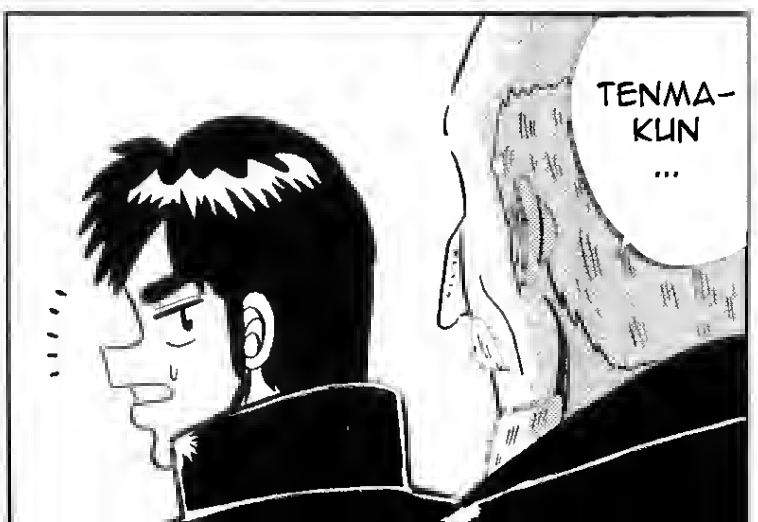
TSUMO!
DAI SAN GEN!
WHAA...!!
AGAIN?!

HMM-HM...

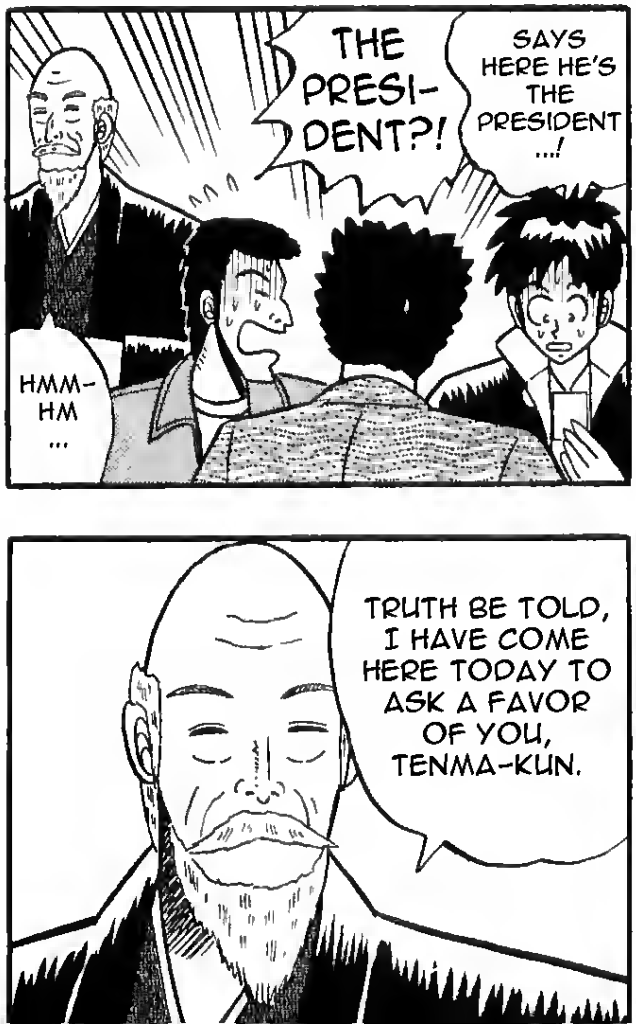
AWW, C'MON GUYS!
IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT!
JUST A BIT OF DUMB LUCK!

THAT'S THE SECOND TIME TODAY, MAN...
JEEZ, THERE'S REALLY NOTHING WE CAN DO, HERE, IS THERE...


THAT "DUMB LUCK" IS A RESULT OF YOUR DESTINY.


TENMA-KUN ...

PLEASE EXCUSE MY RUDE-NESS.
AH, NO, NO ...
HUH ...?
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF.


THE PRESI-DENT?!
SAYS HERE HE'S THE PRESIDENT ...!
HMM-HM ...
TRUTH BE TOLD, I HAVE COME HERE TODAY TO ASK A FAVOR OF YOU, TENMA-KUN.

THE... THE MAHJONG LEAGUE?!
THE JAPANESE MAHJONG LEAGUE, HUH...?
THAT'S... THAT'S WHERE ALL OF THE BIGGEST MAHJONG PROS PLAY

TENMA, I FORMALLY INVITE YOU TO JOIN THIS LEAGUE.
...COME TO COMPETE IN THE MAHJONG CUP, THE MATCH TO DECIDE THE STRONGEST PRO IN JAPAN.
IN THE JAPANESE MAHJONG LEAGUE, THE TOP PROS FROM ALL OVER JAPAN...
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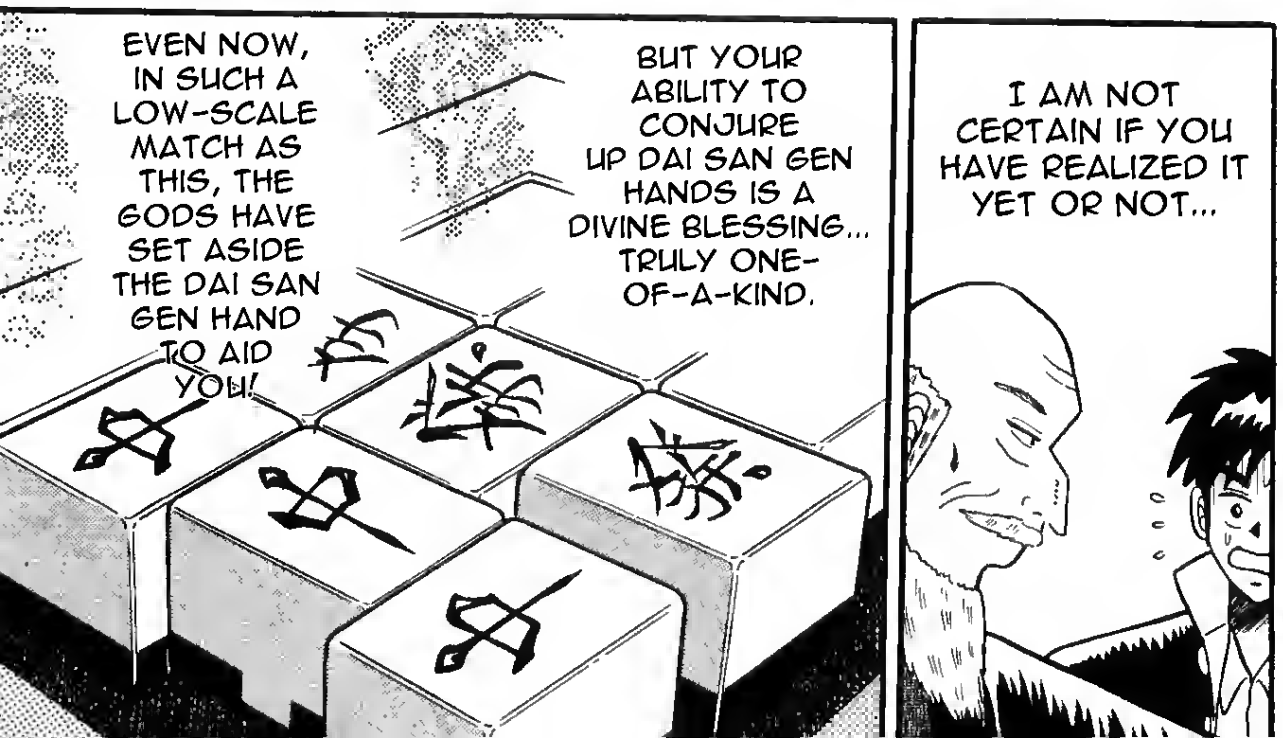
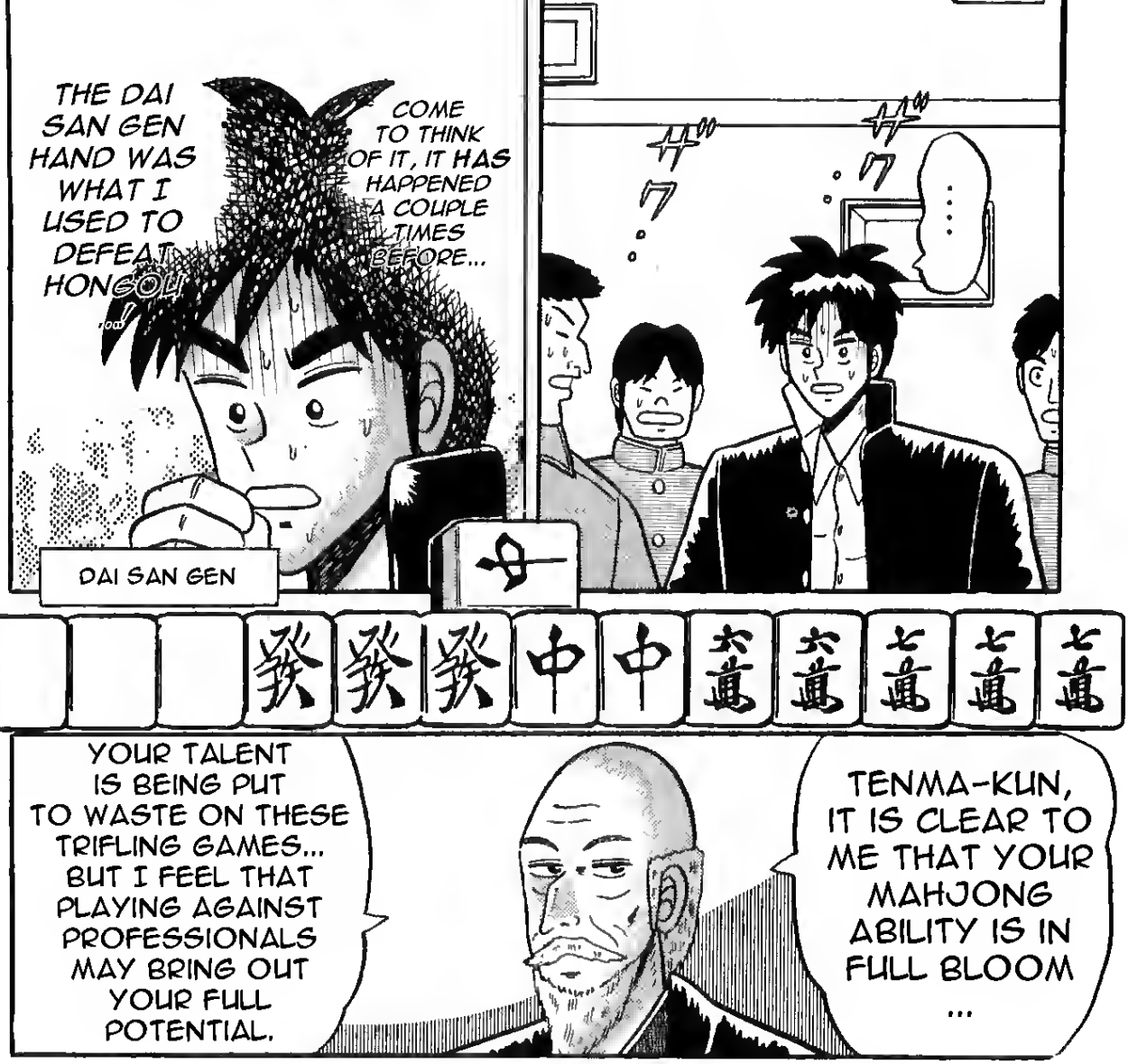
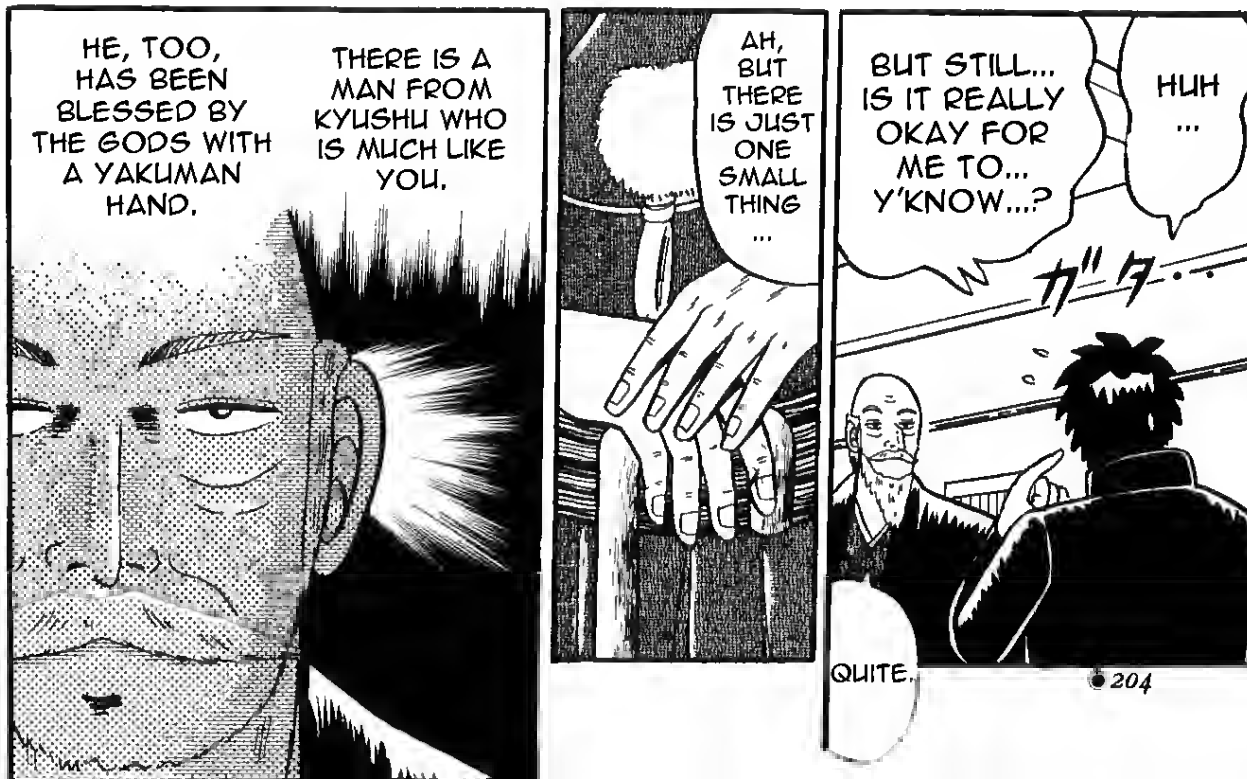

EVEN NOW, IN SUCH A LOW-SCALE MATCH AS THIS, THE GODS HAVE SET ASIDE THE DAI SAN GEN HAND TO AID YOU!
BUT YOUR ABILITY TO CONJURE UP DAI SAN GEN HANDS IS A DIVINE BLESSING... TRULY ONE-OF-A-KIND.
I AM NOT CERTAIN IF YOU HAVE REALIZED IT YET OR NOT...


THE DAI SAN GEN HAND WAS WHAT I USED TO DEFEAT HONGOU
COME TO THINK OF IT, IT HAS HAPPENED A COUPLE TIMES BEFORE...
DAI SAN GEN
YOUR TALENT IS BEING PUT TO WASTE ON THESE TRIFLING GAMES... BUT I FEEL THAT PLAYING AGAINST PROFESSIONALS MAY BRING OUT YOUR FULL POTENTIAL.
TENMA-KUN, IT IS CLEAR TO ME THAT YOUR MAHJONG ABILITY IS IN FULL BLOOM ...


HE, TOO, HAS BEEN BLESSED BY THE GODS WITH A YAKUMAN HAND.
THERE IS A MAN FROM KYUSHU WHO IS MUCH LIKE YOU.
AH, BUT THERE IS JUST ONE SMALL THING ...
BUT STILL... IS IT REALLY OKAY FOR ME TO... Y'KNOW...?
HUH ...
QUITE.

THIS KEY IS THE TICKET RE-QUIRED IN ORDER TO ENTER THE MAHJONG LEAGUE ...
THE KEY THAT CAN OPEN THE DOOR TO A NEW FUTURE.
...
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO HAVE A MATCH WITH THAT MAN...
...SO I MAY SEE WHICH OF YOU TWO IS THE MORE CAPABLE.
...SHALL BE GIVEN THIS KEY.
THAT IS TO SAY, MY CONDITION IS THAT YOU AND THE MAN FROM KYUSHU MUST HAVE A MAHJONG MATCH, AND THE ONE WHO COMES OUT ON TOP ...
THE LOCATION OF THIS FATEFUL EVENT IS IN THE GAME ROOM OF OKUYAMA HOTEL.
THE DECIDING MATCH BETWEEN TWO MEN BLESSED BY THE GODS...
THE NEXT DAY
...

AH! SO YOU CAME!
VERY GOOD, TENMA-KUN!
HMM-HM ...
NICELY PUT.
HEH, WHAT CAN I SAY. YOU MADE IT SOUND SO INTE-RESTING ...
...HOW COULD I PASS THIS CHANCE UP?
NOW, ALLOW ME TO INTRO-DUCE YOU...
...THIS IS SATSUMA TAKERU-KUN...
AND OF COURSE, THIS IS AKAI TENMA-KUN. THE TWO OF YOU HAVE BOTH BEEN SHOWN TO HAVE INCREDIBLE LEVELS OF TALENT...
....
FOR WHILE YOU, TENMA, HAVE BEEN BLESSED WITH THE DAI SAN GEN HAND...

T/N: THE "MUSOU" IN "KOKUSHI MUSOU" CAN ALSO MEAN "UNPARALLELED", MAKING THIS TITLE ESPECIALLY FITTING

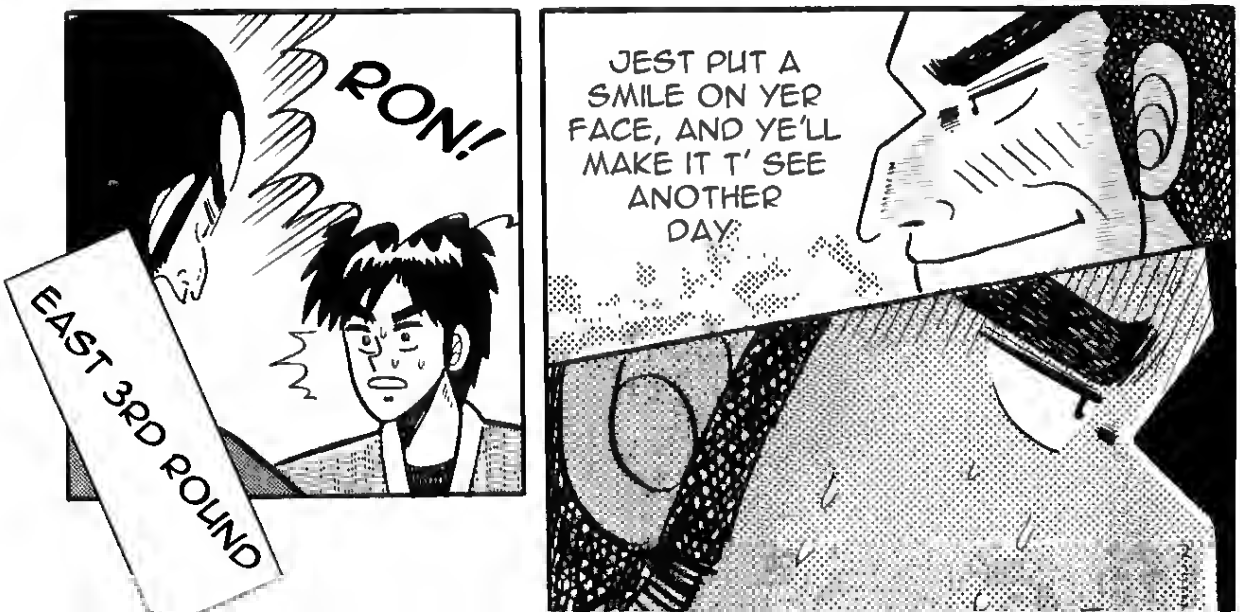
...OR WILL IT BE SATSUMA AND HIS KOKUSHI MUSOU?
ONE-SESSION MATCH
ONE-ON-ONE BET
NOW, WILL THE WINNER OF THIS MATCH BE TENMA AND HIS DAI SAN GEN ...
...AND HOW THE PRESIDENT FIGURED WE WERE BOTH PEOPLE BLESSED BY THE GODS.
I'M QUICKLY GETTIN' A FEEL FOR WHAT TENMA'S SKILL IS, HERE...
I SEE ...
I'LL HAVE TO GO ABOUT THIS IN A WHOLE NEW WAY!
THIS IS DIF-FERENT
NO ONE IN MY WHOLE CITY CAN TOP THAT!
'TILL NOW, MY UN-STOP-PABLE COUR-AGE HAS MADE ME A MAH-JONG BEAST!
...NOBODY'S GOT MORE GUTS 'N I DO!
BUT IT DON'T MATTER HOW GOOD HE IS...
THIS IS REAL MAH-JONG, NOW!!!
IT WON'T BE AS EASY AS BEFORE ...

I GREW UP AS AN ONLY CHILD, WITH ONLY MY DAD TO SUPPORT ME.
I WAS BORN IN ONE'A KYUSHU'S COAL-MINING DISTRICTS ...
MY OLD MAN WAS A LIFELONG COAL MINER...
...IT SEEMED LIKE MAHJONG WAS THE ONLY THING WHAT EVER LIT UP HIS FACE.
'EY, TAKERU!
C'MERE FER A SEC... LEMME SHOW YA SOME-THIN'!
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS ...
THIS HERE'S A KOKUSHI MUSOU HAND...
PRETTY, AIN'T IT?

SET
SEQUENCE
OH, UHH... AIN'T IT THE THING WHERE YA NEED 3 O' THE SAME TILES TO MAKE A SET, AND 3 TILES IN A ROW TO MAKE A SEQUENCE?
SO, TAKERU, Y'KNOW HOW MOST "YAKU" IN MAHJONG GET FORMED NORMALLY, DON'TCHA?
YEP, YOU GOT IT. THAT'S HOW MOST'A THE YAKU GET MADE.
THE ONLY ONE THAT'S DIFFERENT IS THIS KOKUSHI MUSOU ...
IF YER HAND AIN'T GOT NO HOPE FER THE NORMAL YAKU,
YOU CAN GO FER BROKE AND RIDE THE WIND TO THIS KOKUSHI MUSOU HAND!
發 中 東 南 西 北
一萬 九萬
BUT THESE DAYS, ALL YA EVER SEE ARE THOSE NORMAL HANDS THAT ANY OL' SHMUCK CAN PULL TOGETHER...
MOST FOLKS'RE TOO CHICKEN TO EVER THINK'A GOIN' AWAY FROM THE NORM.
I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THE WIND Y'NEED TO GET THROUGH FOR A KOKUSHI IS REALLY COLD.
BUT IF YOU CAN BEAR THROUGH THAT ICY COLD WIND WITHOUT GETTIN' FROSTBITE, YOU CAN MAKE IT BACK FROM THE GRAVE WITHOUT HELP FROM NOBODY ELSE!
HOW-EVER ...
IF YA CAN'T TAKE IT AND TRY T' TURN BACK...
YE'LL BE FROZEN, COLD, AND HELPLESS ...
A PLACE YOU'D WANNA AVOID, NO MATTER WHAT.

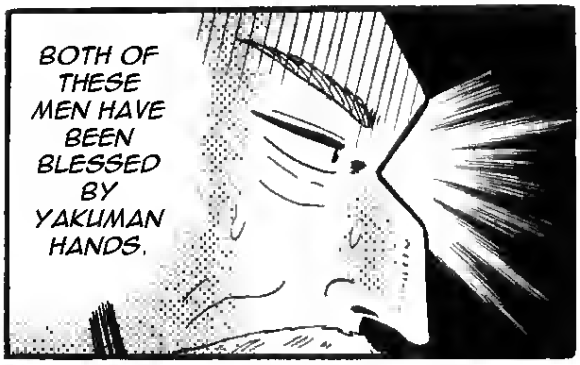
...YOU NEED TO LET THAT ICY WIND LEAD YA IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION!
AND THAT'S WHY ...

...WHEN YA FEEL LIKE YA WANNA JUST BREAK DOWN AN' CRY...
WHEN YOU'RE DOWN ON YER LUCK... POOR, LONE-LY, AND DES-PER-ATE ...
TAKERU ... LISTEN TO YER OL' DAD.


RON!
EAST 3RD ROUND
JEST PUT A SMILE ON YER FACE, AND YE'LL MAKE IT T' SEE ANOTHER DAY.

RON!
SOUTH 2ND ROUND
RON!
EAST 4TH ROUND

NO
...


BOTH OF THESE MEN HAVE BEEN BLESSED BY YAKUMAN HANDS.

HE'S GOT A 12,000 POINT LEAD OVER SATSU-MA.
STILL, THOUGH... TENMA'S THE ONE WITH THE ADVAN-TAGE AT THE MO-MENT...
YEAH ...

YEAH... IT'S GOING BACK AND FORTH LIKE CRAZY!
WOW, THE WAY THESE GUYS PLAY IS REALLY AMAZING ...!!
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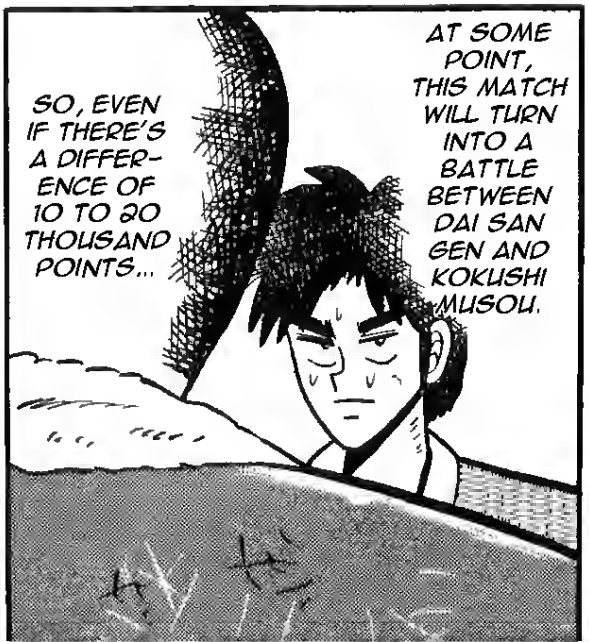
NOT EVEN THAT IS A LEAD THAT WILL MAKE THEM SAFE!
IF THESE TWO ARE THE ONES COMPETING ...


SO, EVEN IF THERE'S A DIFFER-ENCE OF 10 TO 20 THOUSAND POINTS...
AT SOME POINT, THIS MATCH WILL TURN INTO A BATTLE BETWEEN DAI SAN GEN AND KOKUSHI MUSOU.

SOUTH FOURTH ROUND (THE FINAL ROUND)
TENMA IS IN THE LEAD BY 20,000 POINTS.
ABLX. INT
TENMA'S STARTING HAND
IT'S JUST THE KIND OF HAND HE'D WANT IN ORDER TO RUN AWAY WITH THE LEAD HE HAS NOW!
RIGHT HERE AT THE END, HE PICKED UP A SET OF HAKU...!
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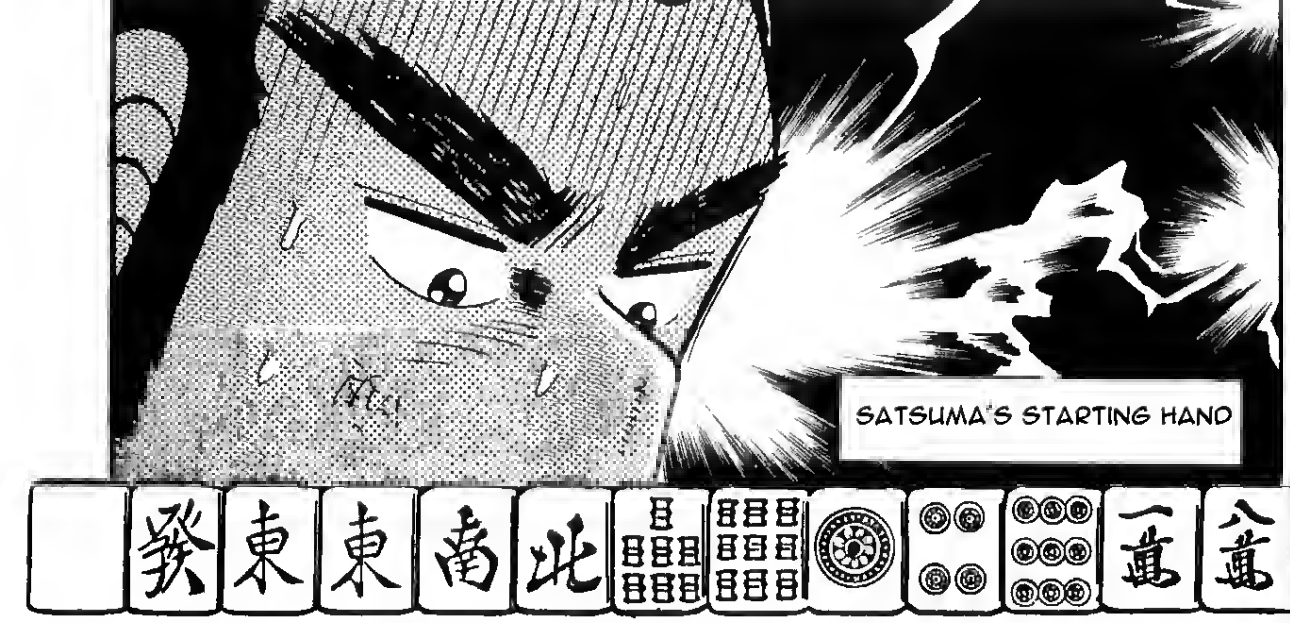
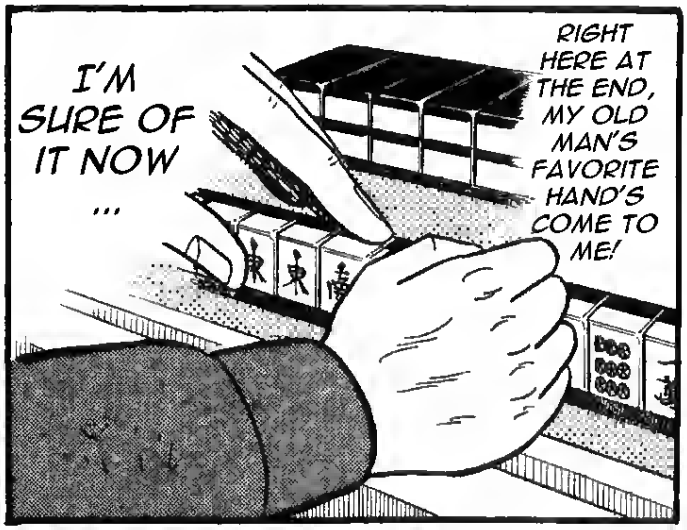
IT'S JUST LIKE I THOUGHT...
THE HEAVENS ARE FAVORING TENMA, NOW!


SATSUMA'S STARTING HAND


I'M SURE OF IT NOW ...
RIGHT HERE AT THE END, MY OLD MAN'S FAVORITE HAND'S COME TO ME!

I'VE GOT 10 KOKU-SHI TILES.

THE HEAVENS ARE ON MY SIDE!

10 YEARS AGO
NEAR ONGA-GAWA RIVER
TATSU-ZOU-SAN!!
PLEASE, COME QUICKLY !!!!!!!
HE'S OVER THERE!!
TA-KE-RUUU UUUU UUUU !!!!!
A LITTLE KID... IN ONGA-GAWA RIVER...
HNN?
TAKERU-KUN'S CAUGHT IN THE CURRENT!!
TATSU-ZOU-SAN....!!!
TATSU-ZOU-SAN ...!!!!!

I'M GOIN' IN!!
I'M COUNTIN' ON YOU, FELLAS!
TA-KE-RUUU !!!!
TATSU-ZOU-SAN ...?!?!
TAKERU-KUN...!!!

HE'S GONE TO THE LEFT O' THE ROCK...!!
ゴオオオ
TA...
TATSU-ZOU-SAN...!!
IF THE CURRENT SWEEPS 'IM OVER TO THE OTHER SIDE ... THEN...
IF I DIDN'T GUESS THE RIGHT SIDE TO WAIT FER 'IM ON ...
... HE'LL DIE!!
TAKERU'S PROBABLY ALREADY SWALLOWED A LOTT'A WATER BY NOW...
THERE'S NO WAY FOR HIM TO TELL WHICH WAY ALL THE WATER IS GOING...
I GET IT!!
...BUT IF IT'S NEAR THAT ROCK, TAKERU CAN ONLY GO JUST TO THE LEFT OR THE RIGHT OF IT!
TAKE-RU...!

YOU NEED T' KEEP ON LIVIN'... YOU'VE BEEN BLESSED !!!
DRIFT TO THIS SIDE'A THE ROCK!!
COME OVER TO YOUR OL' MAN, TAKERU!!
HE SUNK!
ゴボ
THE LEFT SIDE?! OR THE RIGHT ONE ?!?!
WHICH WAY DID HE GO?!
TAKERU-KUN ...!!
IT'S NO GOOD ...
オオ
TA... TATSU-ZOU-SAN ...!
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TATSU-
ZOU-
SAN
...!!!
YEEEEE
EEEEEEE
EEEEEEEE
EEEEEEE
SSSSSS
SSSSSS
!!!

TATSU-ZOU-SAN!!!!
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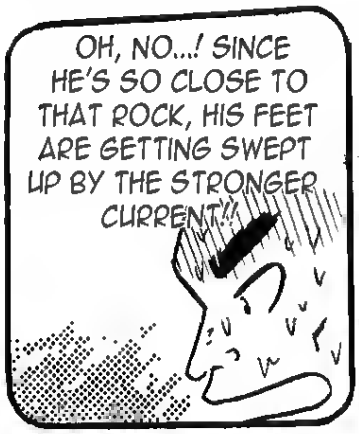
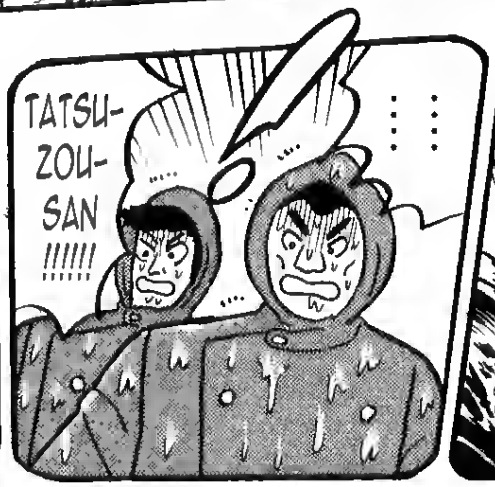
THIS WAY!!
TATSU-ZOU-SAN!!


OH, NO...! SINCE HE'S SO CLOSE TO THAT ROCK, HIS FEET ARE GETTING SWEPT UP BY THE STRONGER CURRENT!!


TATSU-ZOU-SAN !!!!!!
.....
.....
.....

KEEP TRYING !!!

TATSU-ZOU-SAN!!!
HANG IN THERE !!!!!!!!!
DON'T GIVE UP!!!

TATSU-ZOU-SAN ...!!!
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TAKERU-KUN...!!
ARE YOU OKAY?!?!
ザッ。。。
。。。
ID...
THAT MEANS HE'S SAVED !!!
HE'S COUGHING UP WATER ...!!
DADDY!!
TATSU-ZOU-SAN!!
。。。
TATSU-ZOU-SAN ISN'T...!!
HOLD ON...!
HUH ...?!

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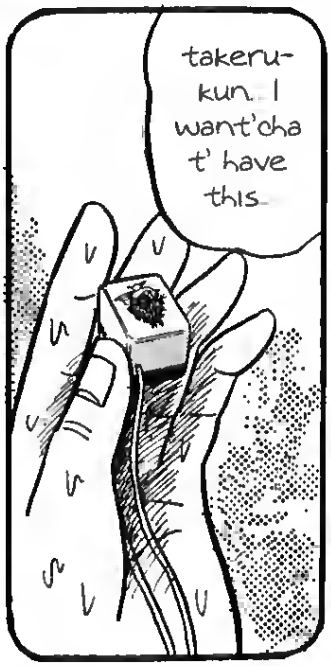
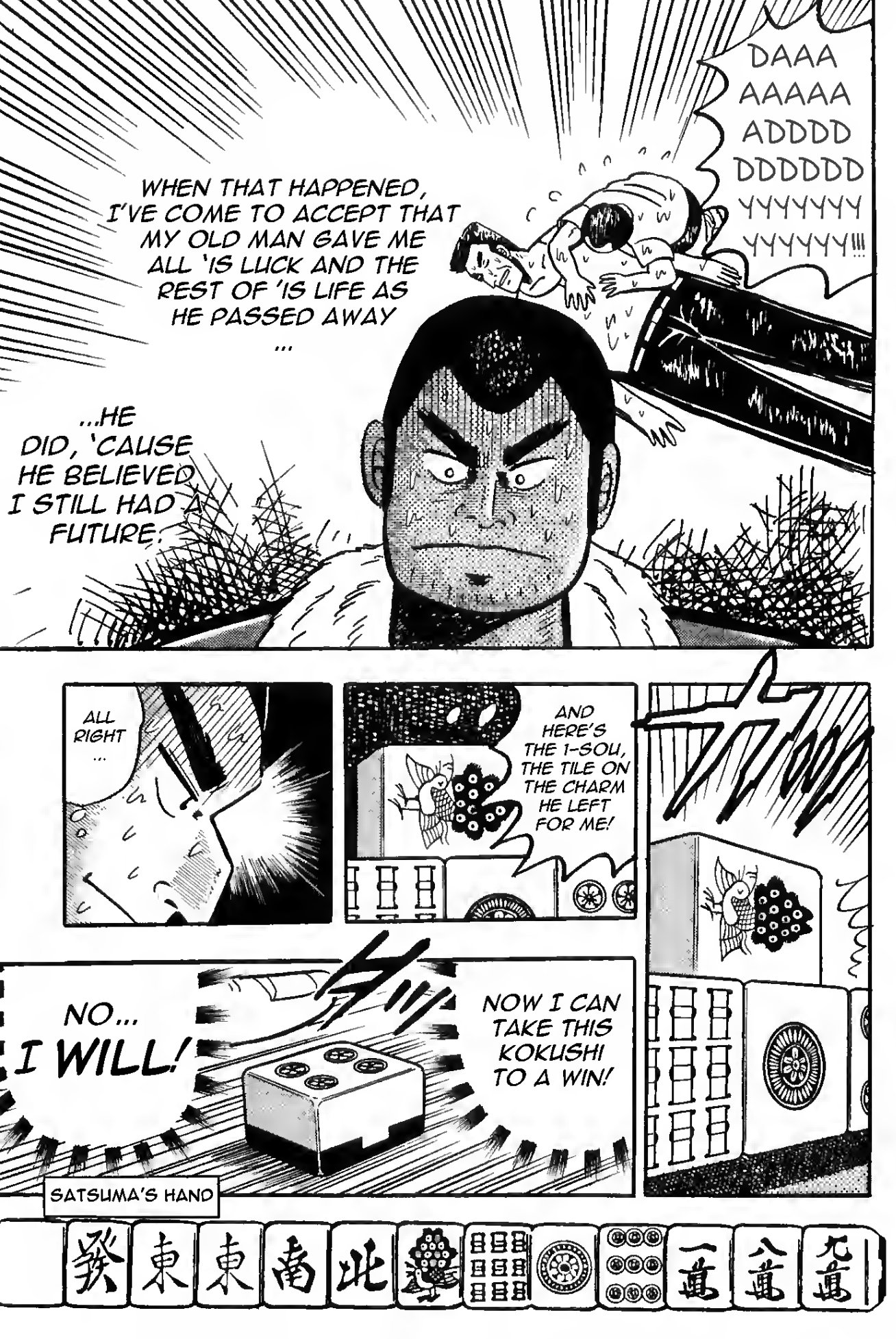
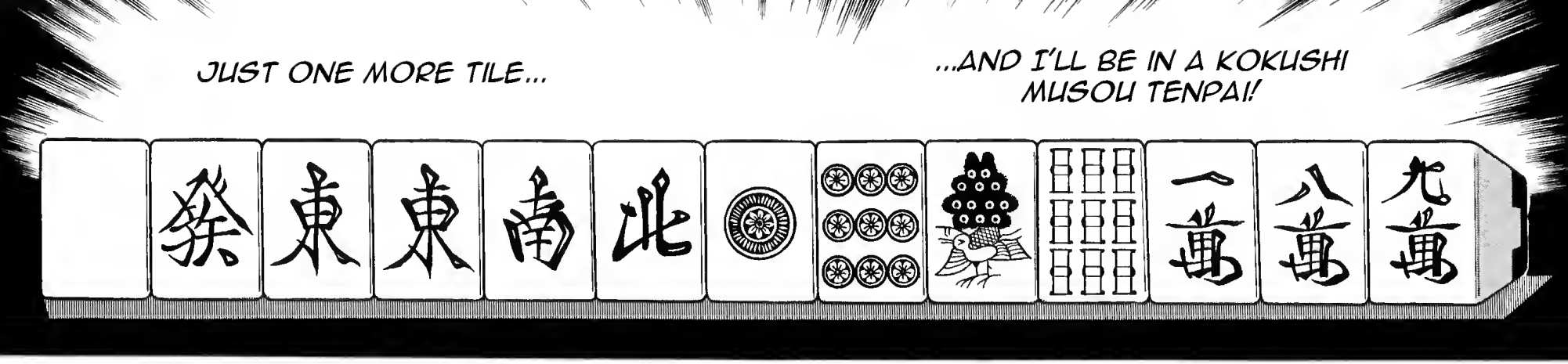
son ...
It's my final Gift to ya...

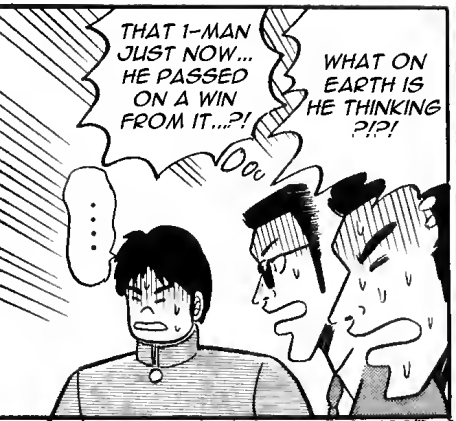

takeru-kun. I want'cha t' have this.

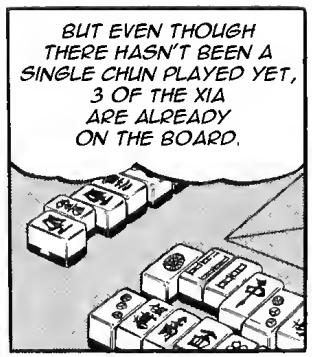
you've really Been Blessed
you've Beaten all the Odds an' made it out, alive...

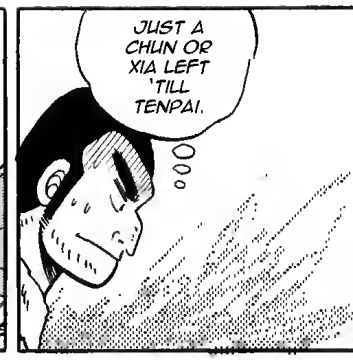
But as fer me..
my part is.
over
you'll Grow up to Be a fine man...


DAAA AAAAA ADDDD DDDDDD YYYYYYY YYYYYY!!!
WHEN THAT HAPPENED, I'VE COME TO ACCEPT THAT MY OLD MAN GAVE ME ALL 'IS LUCK AND THE REST OF 'IS LIFE AS HE PASSED AWAY ...
...HE DID, 'CAUSE HE BELIEVED I STILL HAD A FUTURE.
ALL RIGHT ...
AND HERE'S THE 1-SOU, THE TILE ON THE CHARM HE LEFT FOR ME!
NOW I CAN TAKE THIS KOKUSHI TO A WIN!
NO... I WILL!
SATSUMA'S HAND





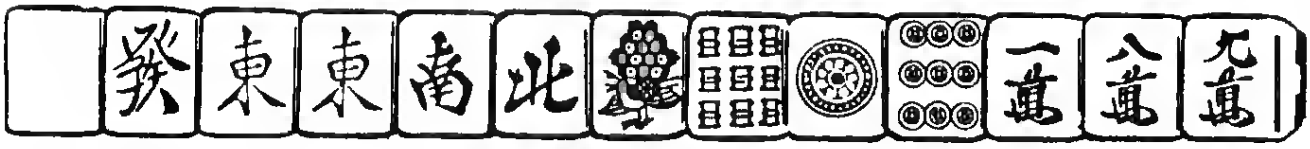


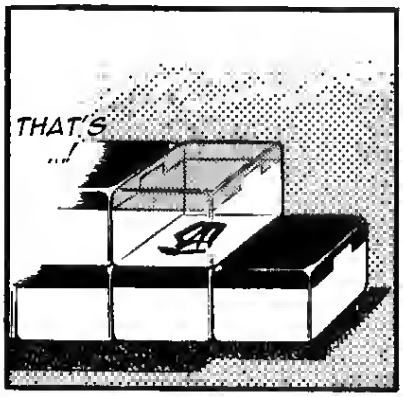


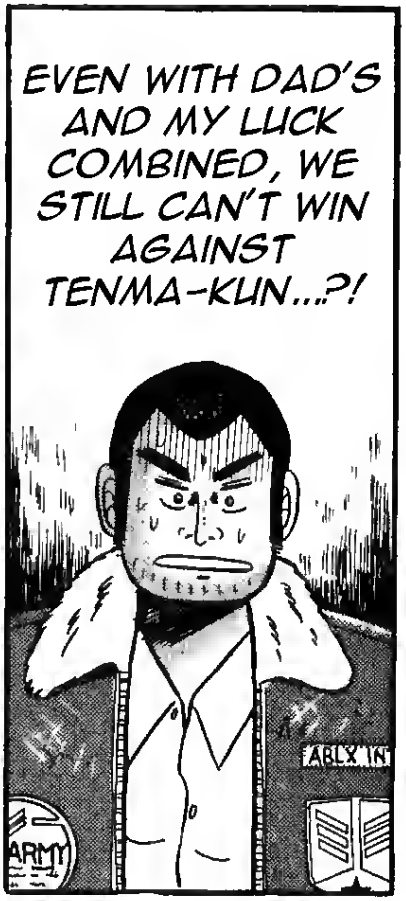
T/N: SHOU SAN GEN (LIT. "LITTLE 3 SAGES"): SAME AS DAI SAN GEN, ONLY ONE OF THE 3 HONOR TILES (CHUN, HAKU, HATSU) IS USED FOR THE PAIR. WORTH MUCH LESS.

カタ…
…
…
SORRY.
WHOOP …
WHAT THE HECK …?!
…IS THERE, OF ALL PLACES?!
THE LAST XIA …
ナカッ…

IS THIS ALL THAT MY BLESSING CAN DO?!
IT'S JUST ONE TILE OVER FROM MY NEXT DRAW ...!!



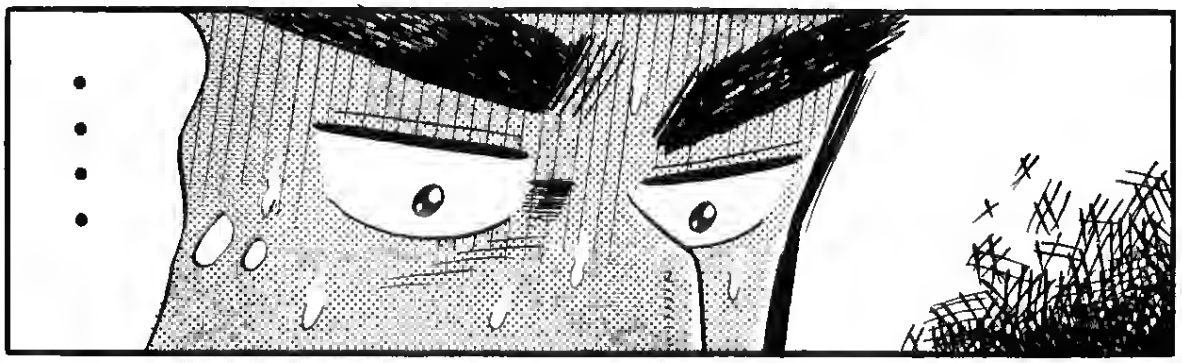

THAT'S ...!

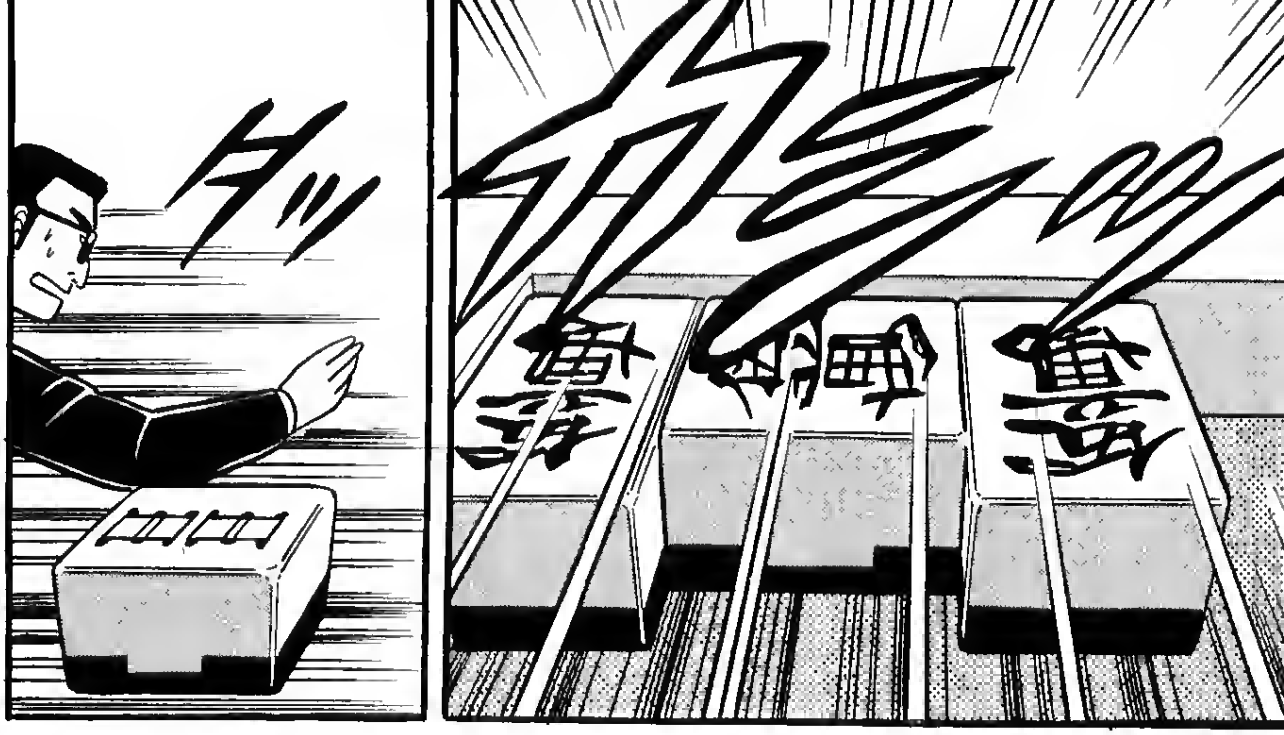

EVEN WITH DAD'S AND MY LUCK COMBINED, WE STILL CAN'T WIN AGAINST TENMA-KUN...?!

CAN SOMETHING LIKE THAT REALLY HAPPEN?!

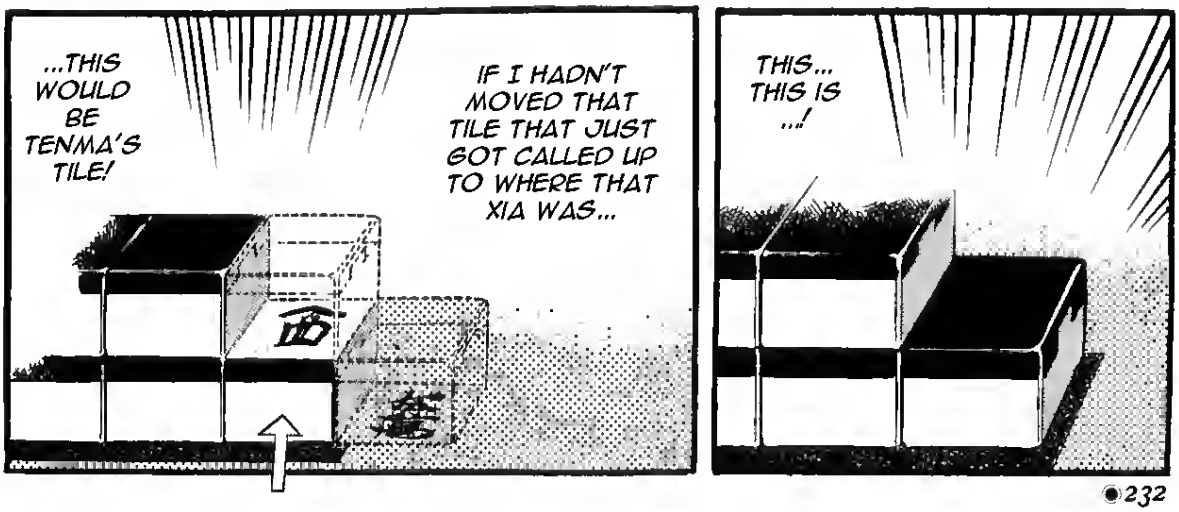
I'VE GOT TO SWITCH 'EM...!
ABLX INT.
...MOVES UP ONE
HIS REAL DRAW...
TO GET THAT XIA!!

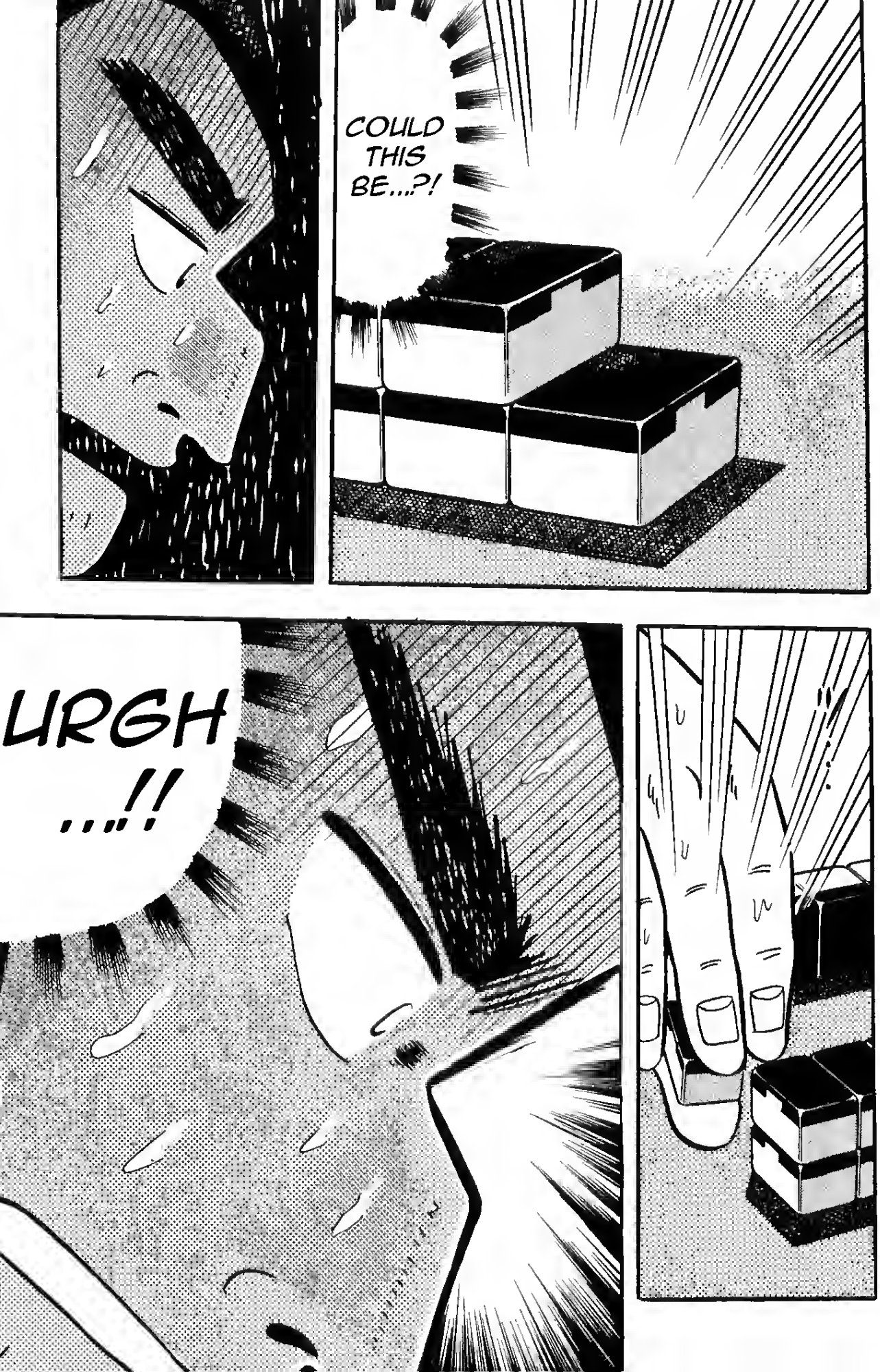
SATSUMA'S TENPAI: KOKUSHI MUSOU, WAITING ON A CHUN!

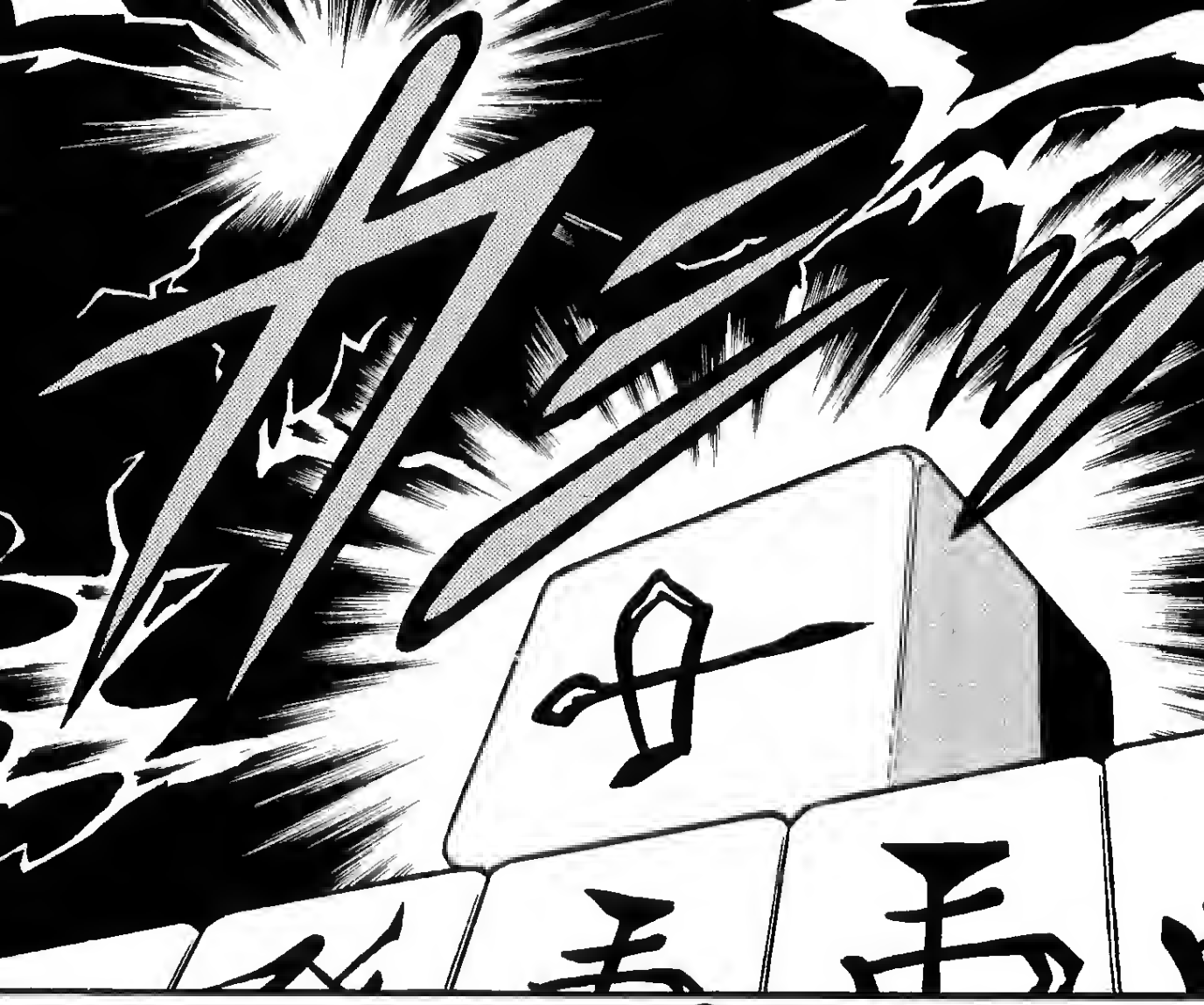




ONCE AGAIN, IT IS SATSUMA'S TURN TO DRAW!
ABLX INT


...THIS WOULD BE TENMA'S TILE!
IF I HADN'T MOVED THAT TILE THAT JUST GOT CALLED UP TO WHERE THAT XIA WAS...
THIS... THIS IS ...!

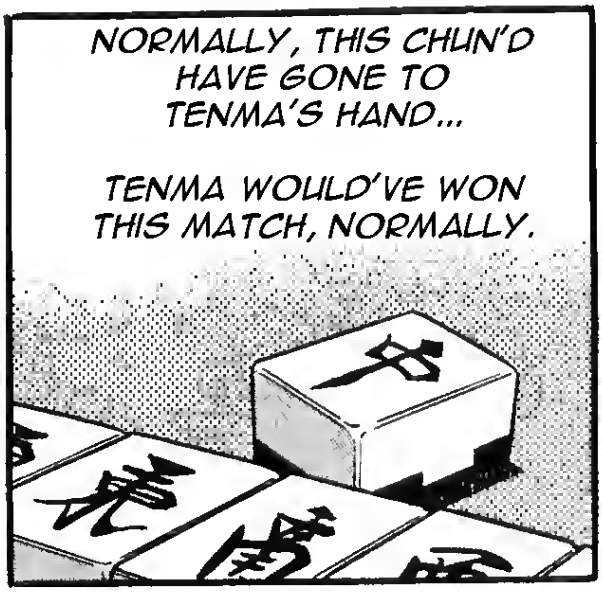

COULD THIS BE...?!
URGH ...!!



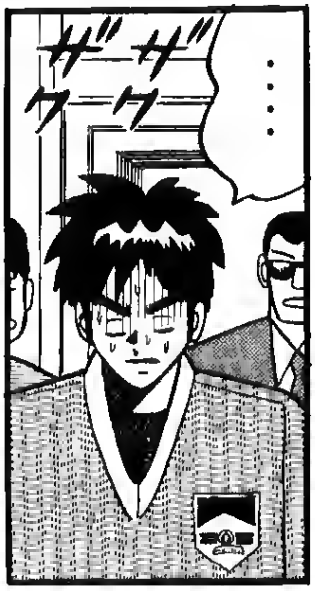
THE CHUN!!
KOKUSHI MUSOU!!

SATSUMA IS THE ONE MORE BLESSED, TONIGHT!
THE FINAL CHUN GOES TO SATSUMA !!

A MIRA-CULOUS DRAW OF THE CHUN!
SATSUMA MAKES HIS COMEBACK WIN!!
ABLX. INT.


NORMALLY, THIS CHUN'D HAVE GONE TO TENMA'S HAND...
TENMA WOULD'VE WON THIS MATCH, NORMALLY.

THIS IS WRONG...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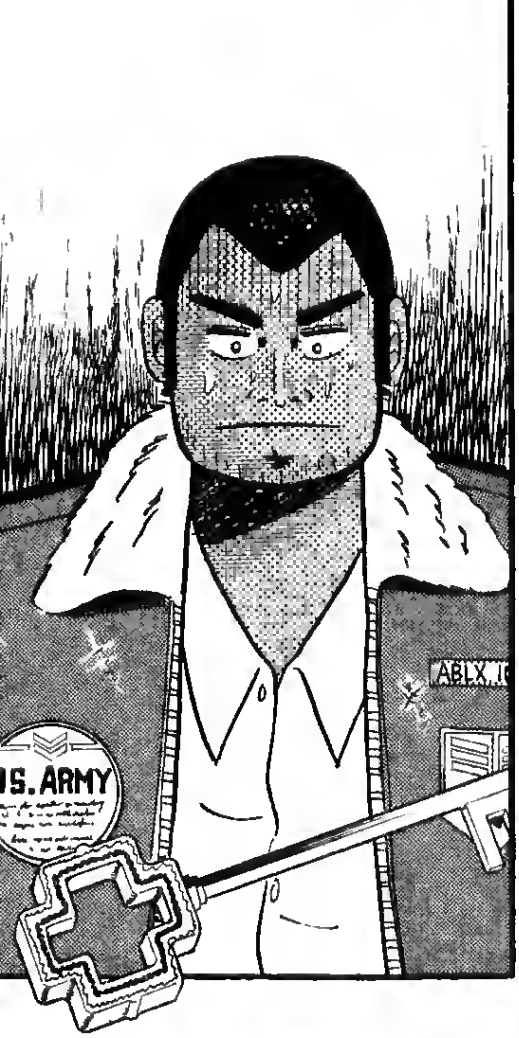
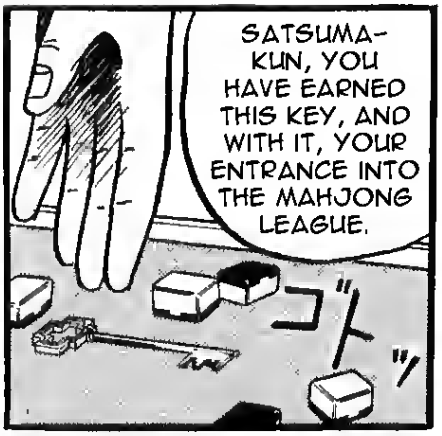
TENMA-KUN ...!
BUT... BUT, MR. PRESI-DENT, SIR!
THERE WAS SOME-THING MORE THAT WENT ON, JUST NOW!
YES, THAT'S RIGHT!
THAT 1-MAN THAT GOT PLAYED BEFORE WAS ACTUALLY TENMA'S WINNING TILE!
URGH ...!!!
I SEE ...
BUT, EVEN SO, THE OUTCOME IS THE SAME.
THAT IS WHAT HE CHOSE.

OVERLOOKING THE 1-MAN WIN WAS TENMA'S DECISION, AND HIS ALONE. OVERLY OPTIMISTIC BE IT AS IT MAY.
AND GOING ON ...
WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT CHUN WOULD HAVE GONE TO TENMA WERE IT NOT FOR THAT CALL ...
THAT, TOO, CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO YOUNG SATSUMA'S BLESSING.


US. ARMY

IT CANNOT BE CHANGED.
EVEN THOUGH SATSUMA-KUN'S WIN WAS BY A VERY SLIM MARGIN...


SATSUMA-KUN, YOU HAVE EARNED THIS KEY, AND WITH IT, YOUR ENTRANCE INTO THE MAHJONG LEAGUE.
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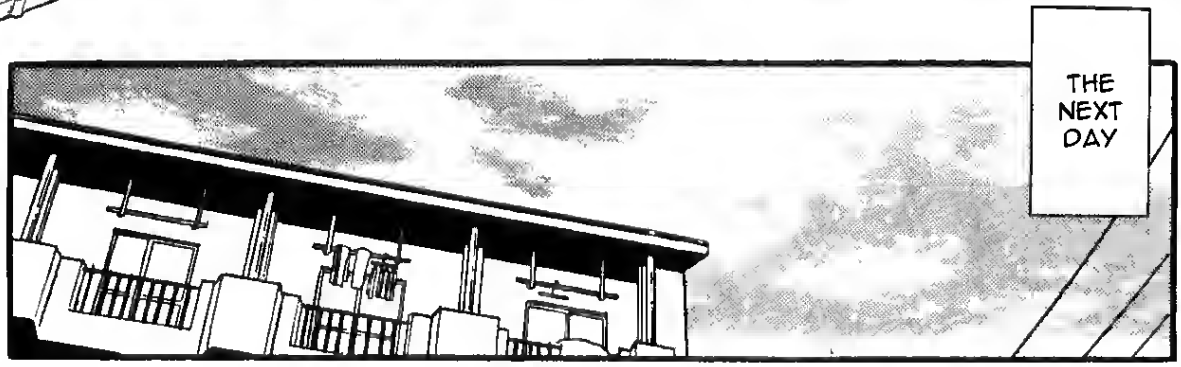
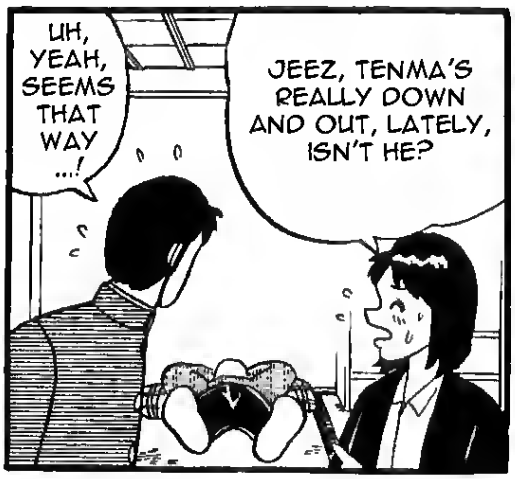

THE NEXT DAY


UH, YEAH, SEEMS THAT WAY ...!
JEEZ, TENMA'S REALLY DOWN AND OUT, LATELY, ISN'T HE?

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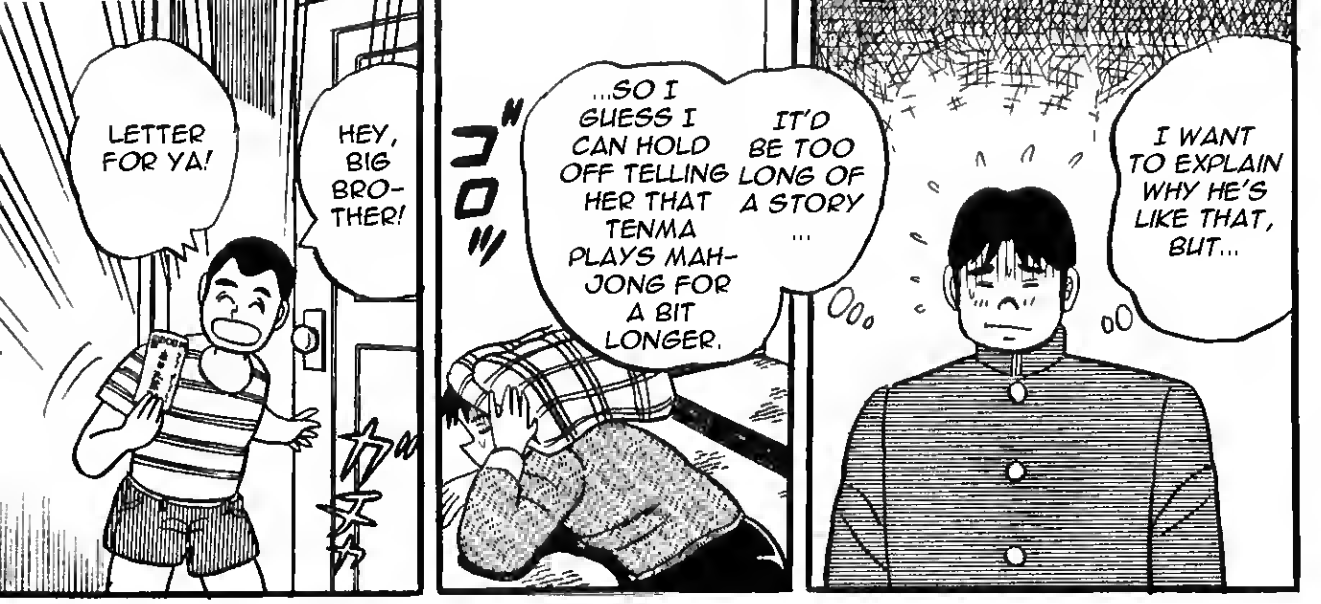
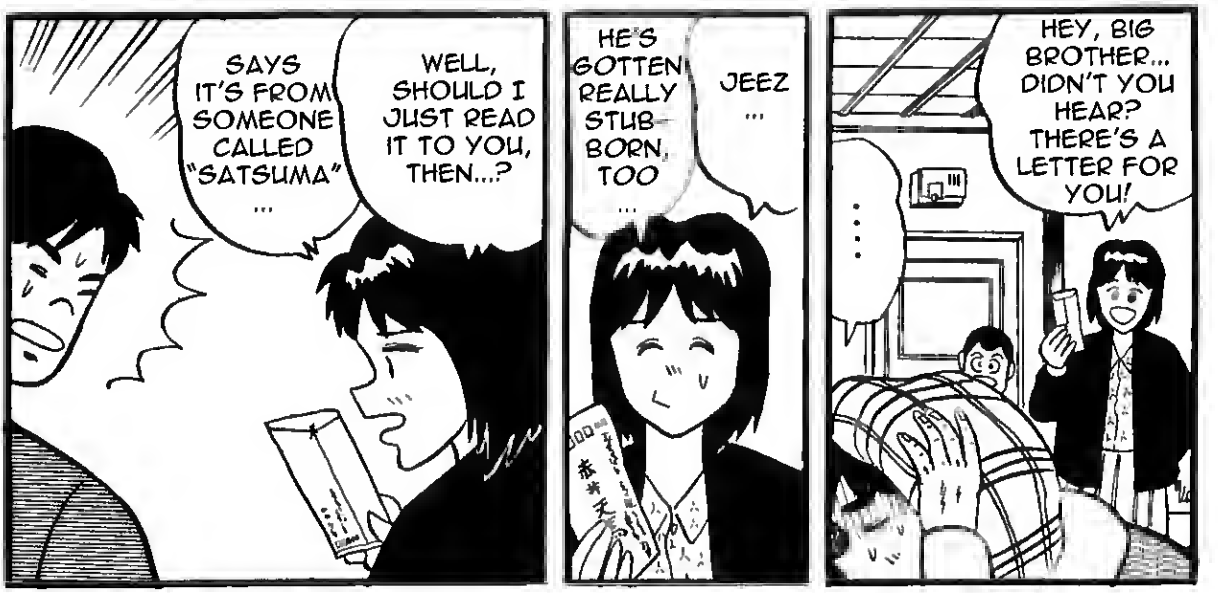

LETTER FOR YA!
HEY, BIG BRO-THER!
...SO I GUESS I CAN HOLD OFF TELLING HER THAT TENMA PLAYS MAH-JONG FOR A BIT LONGER.
IT'D BE TOO LONG OF A STORY ...
I WANT TO EXPLAIN WHY HE'S LIKE THAT, BUT...


SAYS IT'S FROM SOMEONE CALLED "SATSUMA" ...
WELL, SHOULD I JUST READ IT TO YOU, THEN...?
HE'S GOTTEN REALLY STUB-BORN, TOO ...
JEEZ ...
HEY, BIG BROTHER... DIDN'T YOU HEAR? THERE'S A LETTER FOR YOU!
...

HO... HOLD ON!!

Dear Tenma

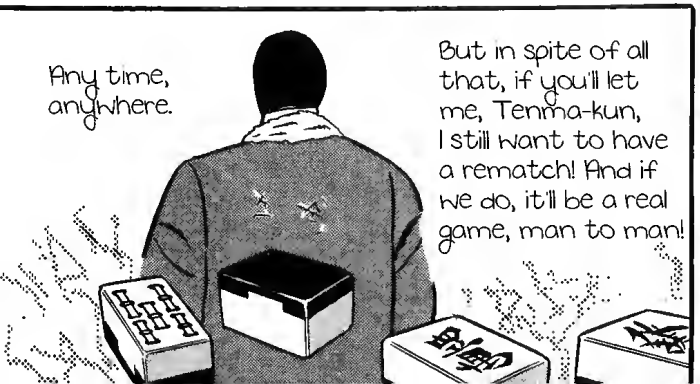
After our match, I couldn't stop thinking about everything that happened, your Dai San Gen, my Kokushi Musou, everything... So I decided to let you know about what happened that day.

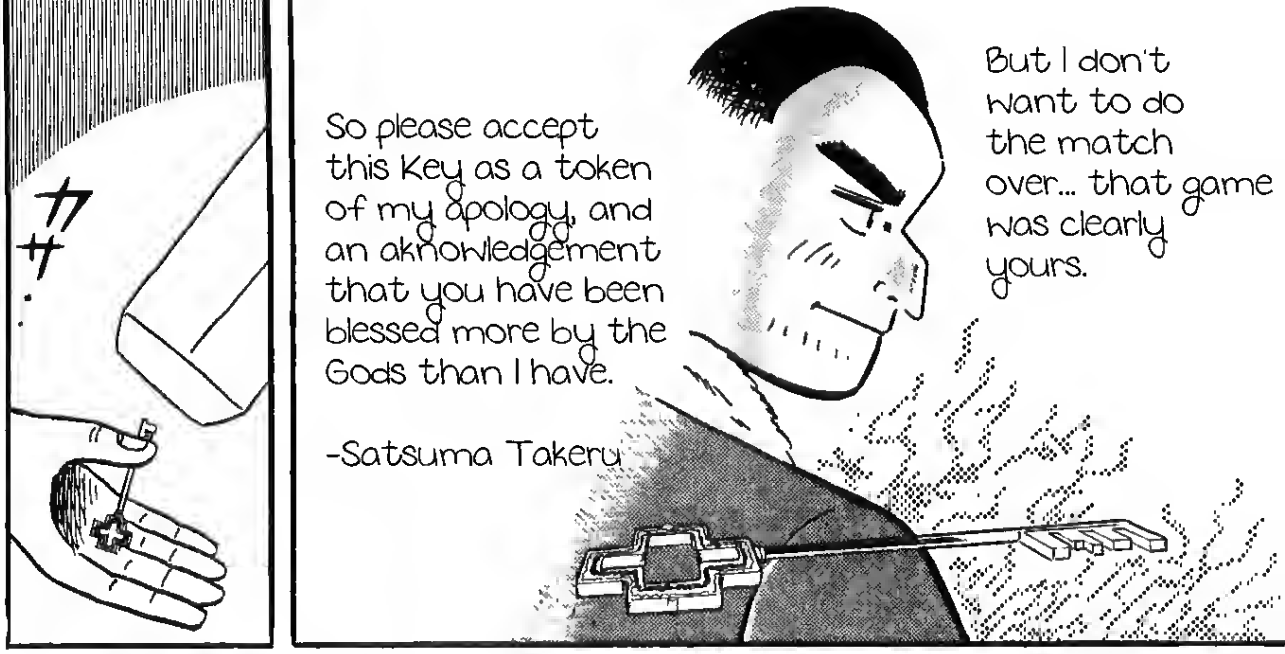
I'm too ashamed to come and meet you face-to-face, so writing this letter is the best I can do.

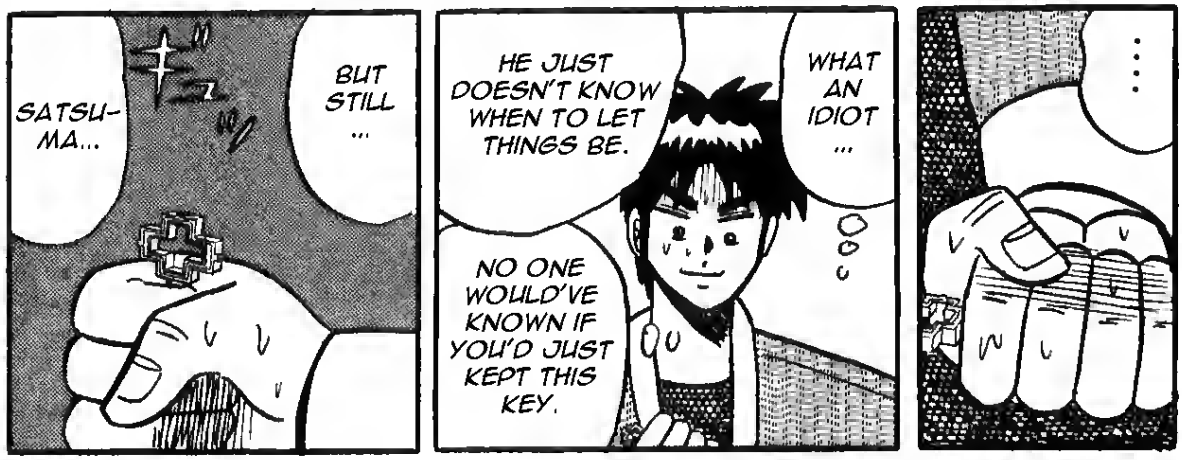
And I'm a man who can't stand it when people don't follow the basic rules.
Anyone in my position would understand... I broke a fundamental rule of the game.

And to top it off, if I hadn't cheated the way I did, that Chun I drew would have gone to you, Tenma-kun! You would have made that beautiful, real Dai San Gen hand complete.

When the Xia got flipped over by mistake, I saw I wasn't going to draw it, so I cheated and switched out my tile for it.
See, I wanted to beat you so bad, I ended up doing something wrong...


Any time, anywhere.
But in spite of all that, if you'll let me, Tenma-kun, I still want to have a rematch! And if we do, it'll be a real game, man to man!


So please accept this Key as a token of my apology, and an aknowledgement that you have been blessed more by the Gods than I have.
-Satsuma Takeru
But I don't want to do the match over... that game was clearly yours.


SATSU-MA...
BUT STILL ...
HE JUST DOESN'T KNOW WHEN TO LET THINGS BE.
NO ONE WOULD'VE KNOWN IF YOU'D JUST KEPT THIS KEY.
WHAT AN IDIOT ...
...

I WON'T LET THIS OFFER GO TO WASTE!
YOU'RE A GREAT GUY...
第5話 天馬vs.薩摩☆完
CHAPTER 5 TENMA VS. SATSUMA FIN